Supply of potable water during seventh five Year Plan

2554. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of the 6th January, 1988 under the caption 'Millions drinking polluted water;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to advise the States to take advantage of the Technology Mission on Drinking Water and related water management; and

(c) the measures Government propose to take to see that the State take advantage of the incentives as well as assistance provided by the Centre through its various programmes so that the targets in respect of drinking wate rfor the Seventh Five Year Plan are achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Programme of supplying safe drinking water to rural areas continues to receive the highest priority at Central Government and State Governments level. Under the Programme of National Technology Mission on Drinking Water Nation wide Sub-Missions have been established for solving specific problems encountered in rural drinking water supply. The Sub-Missions are for (1) Scientific source finding water quality and quantity monitoring, conservation of water and recharge of acquires (2) Eradication of quineaworm (3) Control of fluorosis (4) Desalination of Water and (5) Removal of excess iron. 2824 water quality testing kits developed by Defence Laboratory Jodhpur have been sanctioned to all States|UTs.

Under the Sub-Mission of Scientific Source finding etc., use of Satelite imageries and remote sensing techniques have been adopted for identification of most dependable sources. With the help of these landset imageries and aerial photos, delineation of potential zones and lineaments are being prepared. The States have been advised to conduct geophysical and geohydrological surveys before drilling borewells to reduce their failure rate.

Statewise detailed action plan for coverage of all the residual problem villages in 1988-89 and 1989-90 in a systematic manner has been finalised in consultation with the States|UTs to enable strong monitoring and optimum use of available resources according to a strict time schedule. The States|UTs have started sending schemes for technical clearance.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programmes, Central Government have allowed the State Governments to use 60 per cent of the funds released for operation and maintenance of assets created quality improvement and purification of drinking water. This is an addition to 10 per cent of State sector MNP funds which can be used for O&M of water supply schemes. The Central Government is considering introduction of a scheme of positive incentives and disincentives for maintenance of water supply schemes.

Scheme for district centre on Ring Road

2555. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 4185 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th August, 1987 and state:

(a) whether the scheme for District Centre on the Ring Road, opposite DTC Depot, Wazirpur, has since been resubmitted by the D.D.A. to the Delhi Urban Arts Commission for their approval;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for delay in this regard and by when it is likely to be resubmitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No. Sir.